

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/050,046

Examiner

Juan D Valentin II

Applicant(s)

ARNOLD ET AL. 

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 06/01/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 21,23-27,30,32,33,35,36,38 and 39.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 April 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 4/03, 6/03, & 6/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mike V. Messinger on 07/12/2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

- Please cancel claim 18 with out prejudice or disclaimer.
- Please replace claim 23 with the following:

The illumination system of claim 21, wherein said illumination source array comprises a plurality of sources that emit blue/green light.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 21, 23-27, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, & 39 are allowed over prior art of record.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 21, the prior art fails to disclose or make obvious "wherein said diffuse, reflective surface comprises one roughened surface of the light wedge coated by a layer of reflective paint" and in combination with the other recited limitations of claims 21. Claim 23 is allowed by virtue of dependency on the allowed claim 21.

Regarding claim 24, the prior art fails to disclose or make obvious “an illumination system wherein a plurality of sources are divided into at least a center region and a perimeter region, wherein the density of sources provided in said perimeter region is greater than in said center region” and in combination with the other recited limitations of claim 24. Claim 25 is allowed by virtue of dependency on the allowed claim 24.

Regarding claim 26, the prior art fails to disclose or make obvious “a plurality of sources is divided into at least three groups in at least three respective zones...independently controlling the intensity of each group of sources relative to other groups of sources such as flat, uniform illumination is provided to the platen” and in combination with the other recited limitations of claim 26.

Regarding claim 27, the prior art fails to disclose or make obvious “an illumination system wherein a plurality of sources are divided into at least a center region and a perimeter region, wherein the density of sources provided in said perimeter region is greater than in said center region” and in combination with the other recited limitations of claim 27. Claims 30 & 32 are allowed by virtue of dependency on the allowed claim 27.

Regarding claim 33, the prior art fails to disclose or make obvious “a plurality of sources is divided into at least three groups in at least three respective zones...independently controlling the intensity of each group of sources relative to other groups of sources such as flat, uniform illumination is provided to the platen” and in combination with the other recited limitations of claim 33.

Regarding claim 35, the prior art fails to disclose or make obvious “an illumination system wherein a plurality of sources are divided into at least a center region and a perimeter

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region, wherein the density of sources provided in said perimeter region is greater than in said center region” and in combination with the other recited limitations of claim 35. Claims 36, 38, & 39 are allowed by virtue of dependency on the allowed claim 35.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

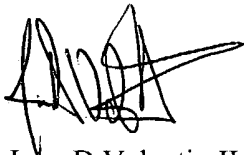
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Juan D Valentin II whose telephone number is (571) 272-2433. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th., Every other Fr..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner’s supervisor, Frank G Font can be reached on (571) 272-2415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Juan D Valentin II
Examiner 2877

JDV

July 12, 2004



Michael P. Stafira
Primary Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800